VZCZCXRO9056 RR RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH DE RUEHVN #0138 0840724 ZNY CCCCC ZZH R 250724Z MAR 09 FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2517 INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2382 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1102 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0052 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0668 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1280 RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0203

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 000138

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/MLS (EMERY, SCHEIBE), DEPARTMENT FOR IO/UNP, NSC FOR E. PHU

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/24/2019
TAGS: PREL ETRD PHUM LA BM
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO LAO MFA: DEFENDING THE AUTHORITIES OF THE TRIPARTITE CORE GROUP IN BURMA

REF: SECSTATE 27325

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Peter Haymond for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

Poloff delivered reftel points to MFA ASEAN Department Deputy Director General Phongsavanh Sisoulath on March 25. DDG Phongsavanh said he understood the importance of continuing support from the international donor community to the people of the Delta, mentioning assistance to Burma from the U.S., Australia, and Europe specifically. He was cautious about interfering in Burmese decisionmaking regarding the Tripartite Core Group but said he would pass on the donor concerns to his Burmese counterparts. He noted an upcoming ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance meeting as one appropriate opportunity. DDG Phongsavanh was very upbeat about U.S.-ASEAN relations, citing the Secretary's trip, the appointment of Ambassador Marciel, and an upcoming Seattle meeting in very positive terms.